

Digital Signal Processing Mini-Project Report

Submitted by

Name: Sarang Galada

Register Number: 210200001

E-mail ID: sarang.g-25@scds.saiuniversity.edu.in

School of Study: Computing & Data Science

Year of Study: III

Declaration

I hereby declare that the work presented in this mini-project report is my own. All sources used in this work have been properly cited and referenced.

Sarang Galada

Date: 13/11/2023

DCT IMAGE COMPRESSION

1. Problem Statement

This project aims to develop a lossy image compression system utilising the Discrete Cosine Transform, built from the ground up.

2. Motivation

In an era characterised by the exponential proliferation of digital information, there is a vital need to devise strategies for efficient storage and transmission of data. The rise of social media platforms and the surge in image content have spurred considerable research efforts into image data compression techniques, aiming to enhance storage and transmission efficiency [1]. This project explores the Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT), one such image compression technique that is widely used and offers comparative advantages.

3. Methodology

The Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) is a signal processing technique for converting a signal into elementary frequency components [2]. It is widely used in image/video compression, for example, in the JPEG/MPEG standards. It was originally derived from the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT), but unlike DFT, provides very high *energy compaction* and doesn't involve the use of complex values. This makes it ideal for usage in lossy image compression. The analysis and synthesis equations for DCT are as follows [3]:

Analysis equation (Forward DCT)

$$C(u,v) = \alpha(u)\alpha(v) \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \sum_{y=0}^{N-1} f(x,y) \cos \left[\frac{\pi(2x+1)u}{2N} \right] \cos \left[\frac{\pi(2y+1)v}{2N} \right],$$

In kernel matrix form: $F(x,y) = C1 * f(x,y) * C2^T$

Synthesis equation (Inverse DCT)

$$f(x,y) = \sum_{u=0}^{N-1} \sum_{v=0}^{N-1} \alpha(u)\alpha(v)C(u,v)\cos\left[\frac{\pi(2x+1)u}{2N}\right]\cos\left[\frac{\pi(2y+1)v}{2N}\right],$$

In kernel matrix form: $f(x,y) = C1^T * F(x,y) * C2$

$$\alpha(u) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{1}{N}} & for \quad u = 0\\ \sqrt{\frac{2}{N}} & for \quad u \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

4. Implementation

In this project, we develop from scratch a computer program written in MATLAB to achieve lossy image compression by utilising DCT along with quantization. The implementation comprises the following steps:

- 1) Accept any input image file and convert it to grayscale.
- 2) Apply DCT to get the transformed values.
- 3) Quantizing the values based on a user-defined quantization factor (Q), resulting in lossy compression of information.

```
Quantization formula: q_img = Q * round (img / Q)
```

4) Applying Inverse DCT to reconstruct the image in compressed form.

It may be noted here that this process includes the crucial steps of the JPEG compression algorithm, namely the use of DCT and quantization, but with the entropy encoding step omitted [4].

MATLAB Code: [5]-[7]

```
classdef dct img compressor exported < matlab.apps.AppBase</pre>
   \ensuremath{\,\%\,} Properties that correspond to app components
   properties (Access = public)
       UIFigure matlab.ui.Figure CompressionFactorSlider matlab.ui.control.Slider
       CompressionFactorSliderLabel matlab.ui.control.Label
                                     matlab.ui.control.Button
       CompressButton
       DownloadImageButton
                                      matlab.ui.control.Button
       UploadImageButton
                                     matlab.ui.control.Button
       UIAxes
                                      matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
       UIAxes2
                                      matlab.ui.control.UIAxes
       VariableTextLabel
                                      matlab.ui.control.Label
   end
```

```
% Callbacks that handle component events
methods (Access = private)
    % Button pushed function: UploadImageButton
    function UploadImageButtonPushed(app, event)
        % Allow user to select an image
         [file, path] = uigetfile({'*.jpg;*.png;*.bmp', 'Image Files
         (*.jpg, *.png, *.bmp)'}, 'Select an Image');
        if isequal(file, 0)
            % User canceled the operation
            return;
        end
        % Load the selected image
        img = imread(fullfile(path, file));
        % If image is RGB, convert to grayscale
        if size(imq, 3) == 3
            img = rgb2gray(img);
        end
        img = im2double(img);
        % Display the original image
        imshow(img, 'Parent', app.UIAxes);
    end
    % Value changed function: CompressionFactorSlider
    function CompressionFactorSliderValueChanged(app, event)
        value = app.CompressionFactorSlider.Value;
        setappdata(0,'value', value);
    end
    % Button pushed function: DownloadImageButton
    function DownloadImageButtonPushed(app, event)
        % Allow user to save the compressed image
         [file, path] = uiputfile({'*.jpg', 'JPEG Image (*.jpg)'}, 'Save
         Compressed Image');
        if isequal(file, 0)
            % User canceled the operation
            return;
        end
        % Get the compressed image from the UIAxes
        compressed img = getimage(app.UIAxes);
        % Save the compressed image
        imwrite(compressed img, fullfile(path, file));
    end
```

```
% Button pushed function: CompressButton
function CompressButtonPushed(app, event)
      image = getimage(app.UIAxes);
      % If image is RGB, convert to grayscale
      if size(image, 3) == 3
      image = rgb2gray(image);
          image = im2double(image);
      end
      % Generate the first DCT kernel (C1)
      [M,N] = size(image);
      i = (0:M-1);
      j = (0:M-1);
     C0 = \cos(pi*(2*i'+1)*j/(2*M));
     C1 = C0 * sqrt(diag([1, 2*ones(1,M-1)])/M);
      % Generate the second DCT kernel (C2)
      k = (0:N-1);
     1 = (0:N-1);
     C0 = \cos(pi*(2*k'+1)*1/(2*N));
     C2 = C0 * sqrt(diag([1, 2*ones(1, N-1)])/N);
      % Apply DCT
     img dct = C1*image*C2';
     % Apply Quantization using quantization factor Q
      Q = getappdata(0, 'value');
     img dct = Q*(round(img dct/Q));
      % Apply Inverse DCT to the quantized image
      compressed img = C1'*img dct*C2;
      % Display the compressed image
     imshow(compressed img, 'Parent', app.UIAxes2);
      % Calculate the compression ratio
      compression ratio = numel(image)/nnz(img dct);
      % Display the variable
      app.VariableTextLabel.Text = ['CR: ',
     num2str(compression ratio)];
end
```

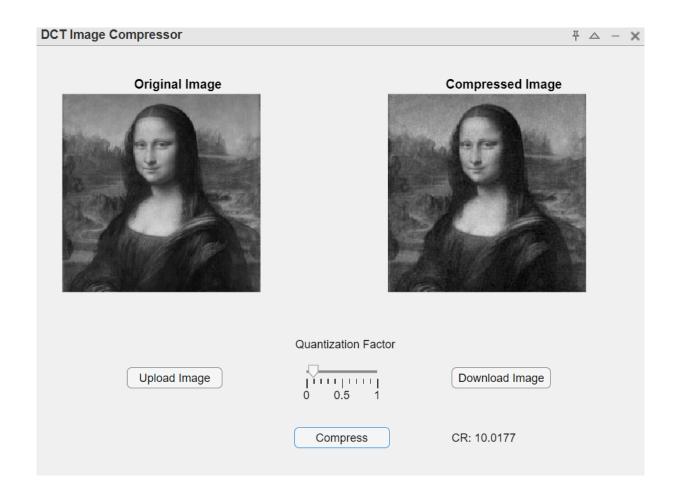
end

```
% Component initialization
   methods (Access = private)
       % Create UIFigure and components
       function createComponents(app)
           % Create UIFigure and hide until all components are created
           app.UIFigure = uifigure('Visible', 'off');
           app.UIFigure.Position = [100 100 640 480];
           app.UIFigure.Name = 'DCT Image Compressor';
           % Create UIAxes2
           app.UIAxes2 = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
           title(app.UIAxes2, 'Compressed Image')
           app.UIAxes2.XTick = [];
           app.UIAxes2.YTick = [];
           app.UIAxes2.Position = [350 161 283 267];
           % Create UIAxes
           app.UIAxes = uiaxes(app.UIFigure);
           title(app.UIAxes, 'Original Image')
           app.UIAxes.XTick = [];
           app.UIAxes.YTick = [];
           app.UIAxes.Position = [9 161 283 267];
           % Create UploadImageButton
           app.UploadImageButton = uibutton(app.UIFigure, 'push');
           app.UploadImageButton.ButtonPushedFcn = createCallbackFcn(app,
@UploadImageButtonPushed, true);
           app.UploadImageButton.BusyAction = 'cancel';
           app.UploadImageButton.Position = [97 104 100 22];
           app.UploadImageButton.Text = 'Upload Image';
           % Create DownloadImageButton
           app.DownloadImageButton = uibutton(app.UIFigure, 'push');
           app.DownloadImageButton.ButtonPushedFcn = createCallbackFcn(app,
@DownloadImageButtonPushed, true);
           app.DownloadImageButton.Position = [437 104 104 22];
           app.DownloadImageButton.Text = 'Download Image';
           % Create CompressButton
           app.CompressButton = uibutton(app.UIFigure, 'push');
           app.CompressButton.ButtonPushedFcn = createCallbackFcn(app,
@CompressButtonPushed, true);
           app.CompressButton.Position = [272 40 100 22];
           app.CompressButton.Text = 'Compress';
```

```
% Create CompressionFactorSliderLabel
           app.CompressionFactorSliderLabel = uilabel(app.UIFigure);
           app.CompressionFactorSliderLabel.HorizontalAlignment = 'right';
           app.CompressionFactorSliderLabel.Position = [265 140 113 22];
           app.CompressionFactorSliderLabel.Text = 'Quantization Factor';
           % Create CompressionFactorSlider
           app.CompressionFactorSlider = uislider(app.UIFigure);
           app.CompressionFactorSlider.Limits = [0 1];
           app.CompressionFactorSlider.MajorTicks = [0 0.5 1];
           app.CompressionFactorSlider.ValueChangedFcn =
createCallbackFcn(app, @CompressionFactorSliderValueChanged, true);
           app.CompressionFactorSlider.Position = [285 120 74 3];
           app.CompressionFactorSlider.Value = 0.001;
           % Create VariableTextLabel
           app.VariableTextLabel = uilabel(app.UIFigure);
           app.VariableTextLabel.HorizontalAlignment = 'left';
           app.VariableTextLabel.Position = [437 40 200 22];
           app.VariableTextLabel.Text = 'Compression Ratio: ';
           % Show the figure after all components are created
           app.UIFigure.Visible = 'on';
       end
   end
   % App creation and deletion
   methods (Access = public)
       % Construct app
       function app = dct_img_compressor_exported
           % Create UIFigure and components
           createComponents(app)
           % Register the app with App Designer
           registerApp(app, app.UIFigure)
           if nargout == 0
               clear app
           end
       end
       % Code that executes before app deletion
       function delete(app)
           % Delete UIFigure when app is deleted
           delete (app.UIFigure)
       end
   end
end
```

5. Simulation Results

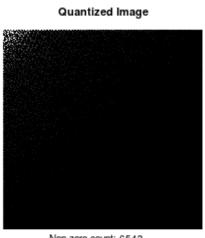
As can be seen from the following results, the lossy image compression application works successfully.



By adjusting the Quantization Factor, we see that a Compression Ratio (CR = # elements in input image / # non-zero elements in quantized DCT image) of 10:1 results in minor perceptible loss in image quality. This tallies with the typical compression ratio achieved by the JPEG compression standard, which is usually 10:1 or 20:1 [8].

Analysing the intermediary images in the transformed domain for CR=10:1, before and after quantization, we get:



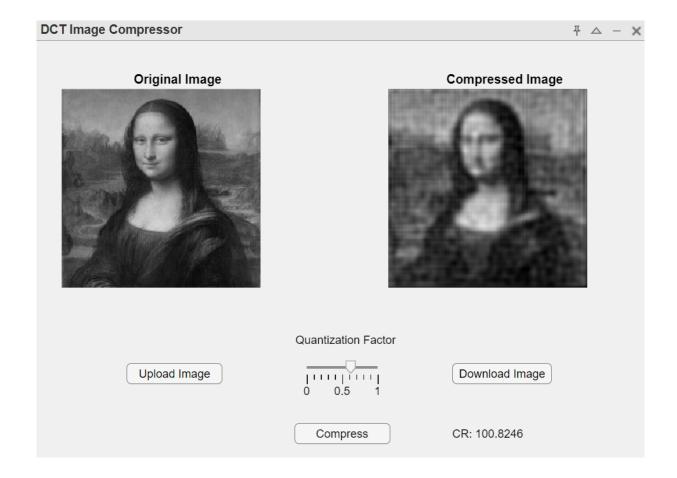


Non-zero count: 6543

It can be observed that most of the transformed image is black, ie. contains less-significant values (close to zero or negative), and only pixels in the top-left corner contain significant values.

After quantization, the non-zero value count drops tenfold, since all less-significant values are quantized to zero and the remaining non-zero values are truncated to a lower precision.

Thus, when an entropy encoding algorithm such as Huffman encoding is applied, the storage space required is far lesser than that of the original image, allowing for both efficient storage and transmission.



Upon increasing the Compression Ratio, it is found that the point at which it becomes difficult to discern the image's features is around the 100:1 mark. The practical implication of this is that we can reduce our image to almost $1/100^{th}$ the original size and yet retrieve back from it an image that largely conveys the nature of the original image.

6. Conclusion

From this endeavour we can conclude that it is indeed possible and effective to use the Discrete Cosine Transform to compress images. The demonstrations highlight the immense energy compaction property of DCT and its practical efficacy in lossy image compression.

Furthermore, by building a basic MATLAB GUI application from the ground up (without using in-built functions), we were able to successfully compress images by applying DCT and quantization.

References

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